

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 04738 140250Z

60

ACTION L-03

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INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4738

TEHRAN FOR BETTAUER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, PINS

SUBJ: UNGA--LEGAL COMMITTEE--PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS--

LIBERATION MOVEMENTS EXCEPTIONS

1. DURING COURSE OF MORNING VARIOUS AFRICANS AND NON-ALIGNED DELS EVIDENCED CONTINUING DISCOMFORT WITH EXTREME NATURE OF PROVISION. WE AND OTHER WEO DELS KEPT UP PRESSURE ON AS MANY AS WOULD LISTEN ARGUING THAT THRUST OF THEIR PROVISION WAS TO SET INTERNATIONAL LAW BACK THOUSANDS OF YEARS.

2. FIRST SIGNIFICANT CRACK IN SOLID AFRICANS CAME WHEN SAM (GHANA) INFORMED DELOFF HE HAD CONVINCED HIS AMBASSADOR TO CONTACT OTHER AFRICAN AMBASSADORS AND SAY GHANA HAD RECONSIDERED ITS POSITION AND COULD NOT GO ALONG WITH PROVISION AS FORMULATED.

3. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED CYPRUS, INDIA, INDONESIA, GUYANA PLAN TAKE POSITION AT FORTHCOMING NON-ALIGNED MEETING THAT PROVISION WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO THEM AND WAS NOT ISSUE ON WHICH NON-ALIGNED SOLIDARITY SHOULD APPLY.

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PAGE 02 USUN N 04738 140250Z

4. GONZALEZ GALVEZ (CHAIRMAN) AGREED WITH DELOFF THAT BEST CHANCE OF AMELIORATING SITUATION WAS FOR HIM TO CONDUCT VERY INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS. WE HAVE REASON BELIEVE HE EXPLORING ON PRELIMINARY BASIS WITH AFRICANS AND APPROACH PURSUANT TO WHICH CONVENTION WOULD EXPRESSLY PERMIT RESERVATION TO ALL ARTICLES EXCEPT 1, 2, 2A, 8 AND 11.

5. ALL OF ABOVE RESULTS GENERALLY ENCOURAGING BUT IT REMAINS BE SEEN WHETHER MODERATES WILL STAND AGAINST PRESSURE RADICAL AFRICANS WILL BRING TO BEAR.

6. LATIN AMERICANS ALREADY BEGINNING TO SHOW SIGNS OF CRACKING UNDER THE PRESSURE. AMBASSADOR SANCHEZ GAVITO (MEXICO) INFORMS US ARGENTINA AND POSSIBLY ECUADOR AND PERU ARE LEANING TOWARD ABSTENTION IF MATTER PUSHED TO VOTE. SINCE WE REGARD ARGENTINE LEADERSHIP IN LA GROUP CRITICAL, AMB. BENNETT CONTACTED AMB. ORTIZ DE ROZAS (ARGENTINA) IN EFFORT SHORE THEM UP. ORTIZ DE ROZA SAID HE WILLING LOOK INTO MATTER IN SYMPATHETIC LIGHT. SINCE MEXICO AND BRAZIL FIRMLY OPPOSED AFRICAN PROVISION BELIEVE ADDITION ARGENTINA TO THIS GROUP COULD RESULT IN SOLID LATIN OPPOSITION.

7. SO FAR AS IDEA OF RESERVATIONS DISCUSSED PARA 4 ABOVE OUR INITIAL REACTION IS TO OBJECT TO OMISSION ARTICLES 6 AND 7 FROM LIST. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF PRICE FOR WITHDRAWAL OF AFRICAN PROVISION IS LIST AS SET FORTH ABOVE WE WONDERED WHETHER IT WOULD NOT BE PRICE WORTH PAYING. THE STATES WHO WOULD OTHERWISE BECOME PARTIES TO THE TREATY WITHOUT CRIPPLING RESERVATIONS WOULD PRESUMABLY STILL DO SO. OTHER STATES WILL AT LEAST BE BROUGHT TO ACCEPT ARTICLES 1 AND 2 AND WE WOULD AVOID NO-WIN SHOWDOWN OVER AFRICAN FREEDOM FIGHTER PROVISION IF GONZALEZ GALVEZ CAN PUT THE DEAL TOGETHER. AS INITIAL REACTION WE PLAN TELL GONZALEZ GALVEZ 6 AND 7 SHOULD BE ADDED TO LIST BUT REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON ACCEPTABILITY LIST SET FORTH PARA 4 ABOVE AS FINAL FALLBACK.
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